

## United States Department of the Internetional

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services 4000 Airport Parkway Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001 Superintendent
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Admin. Asst.
Chief Hanger
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Biotech
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Declober 26, 2001

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Memorandum

To:

Chas Cartwright, Superintendent, National Park Service, Devils Tower National

Monument, Devils Tower, WY

From:

Michael Long, Field Supervisor, ES, Cheyenne, WY

Subject:

Devil's Tower National Monument Draft General Managment Plan/Environmental

**Impact Statement** 

Thank you for your letter requesting comments on the Devils Tower National Monument Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement.

Based on the information provided, it is unlikely the proposed management plan will adversely affect any threatened or endangered species. However, if the scope of the plan is changed, or the plan is modified, in a manner that you determine may affect a listed species, this office should be contacted to discuss consultation requirements pursuant to section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

The plan, as proposed, also is unlikely to result in the take of migratory birds and therefore is not likely to result in a violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. However, if any raptor nests are located within ½-mile of planned construction sites (or within 1 mile for bald eagles and ferruginous hawks), please contact this office so that we may work together to protect these species.

We also noted alternative 3, the preferred alternative, has the added benefit of a likely increase in Black-tailed prairie dog habitat. This species is currently a candidate for listing under the Act and therefore, any actions taken to increase or improve their habitat is greatly appreciated.

We appreciate your efforts to ensure the conservation of endangered, threatened, and candidate species and migratory birds. If you have further questions on this subject, please contact Brad Rogers of my staff at the letterhead address or phone (307) 772-2374, extension 25.